

# **Employment Tax Tips**and Updates



### Employment Tax Program

- 3 Operating Units address IRS employment tax issues
- SB/SE Specialty Tax Employment
  Tax 21 groups across the nation
- Concentration on employment tax issues affecting small business
- Field and Policy under one roof



### Who Are Our Taxpayers?

• Those Required to File Form 941, Employer's Quarterly Tax Return

• 29.9 Million Forms 941 Filed in 2003 by over 6 million employers

Non-Filers - Major source of noncompliance



## Working to Reduce Non-Filers

- Significant Resources Dedicated in SB/SE Employment Tax to address
- Corrosive to our Tax System
- Using data from both Internal and External Sources
- Variety of reasons for non-filing and Trust Fund Issues



# Officer's Compensation

- Performance of Services Key on the part of 1120S Officer/Shareholders - dual role creates issues/opportunities
- Little or no compensation reflected yet Services performed
- Significant Distributable Income
- Employment Taxes reduced/eliminated

June 28, 2005



#### FRINGE BENEFITS

- Corporate Officers vs. Employees
- Accountable vs. Non-Accountable Plans
- Creative yet the same result lower
   Employment Taxes paid by employer –
   lower income tax paid by employee



# Fringe Benefit Examples

Automobiles

Travel

Cash Payments in Lieu of Wages

"Double Dipping"



#### TIPS

- Tip Agreements
- Employee Examinations -Corresponding Assessments to Employers
- Employer only assessments
- Overall Strategy



# TRUST FUND RECOVERY PENALTY

- Key Collection Tool
- Establish Communications at Local Level
- Ensure Collections' Involvement early in the process
- Everyone's issue



#### Revised Form 941

• Identify Total Number of Employees each Quarter

Check Boxes to Identify Quarter

Defines Adjustments to Tax

Schedule B and Schedule D



#### FOR INFORMATION

Go to www.irs.gov



#### **QUESTIONS?**